

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Lahontan Region



Linda S. Adams Secretary for Environmental Protection

Victorville Office 14440 Civic Drive, Suite 200, Victorville, California 92392 (760) 241-6583 • Fax (760) 241-7308 http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan

Arnold Schwarzenegger Governor

July 2, 2010

WDID No. 6B360903006

Chris Seney Nursery Products, LLC 12277 Apple Valley Road, Suite 131 Apple Valley, CA 92308

CORRECTIVE ACTION COST ESTIMATE, KNOWN OR REASONABLY FORESEEABLE RELEASES, NURSERY PRODUCTS HAWES COMPOSTING FACILITY, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) staff received on May 5, 2010, the above referenced document, which was prepared by Nursery Products. The objective of this report is to propose a cost estimate to correct a reasonably foreseeable release from the Facility. This Corrective Action Cost Estimate, Known or Reasonably Foreseeable Release report was submitted to satisfy Board Order No. R6V-2010-0010. Water Board staff have reviewed the above referenced report and believes the report fails to meet the requirements stated in Board Order No. R6V-2010-0010.

As stated in Board Order No. R6V-2010-0010, Waste Discharge Requirements, Section V. C. 5., Known or Reasonably Foreseeable Release Plan and Financial Assurance Instrument, the known or reasonably foreseeable release plan must include a plan for addressing a known or reasonably foreseeable release "from the Waste Pile and Surface Impoundments in accordance with the requirements in CCR, title 27, sections 20380, subdivision (b) and 22222." Because the scenarios presented for a reasonably foreseeable release only address a release from the surface impoundments, and no scenario is presented for a release from the waste pile, the Known or Reasonably Foreseeable Release Plan fails to meet the requirements set forth in the Waste Discharge Requirements, Board Order No. R6V-2010-0010.

Sampling is to be conducted at select locations throughout the compost pad area to determine if there is evidence of a release from the Waste Pile. As discussed at meetings in the Victorville office and proposed in Section 6.3.3, Laboratory Analysis, of the Report of Waste Discharge, should the results of those sampling efforts indicate a release from the Waste Pile, alternatives would be evaluated, including replacing the pad. The Known or Reasonably Foreseeable Release Plan should discuss this scenario and provide appropriate corresponding cost estimates.

California Environmental Protection Agency



The scenarios presented for the Surface Impoundments indicate that the assumed incident frequency is one incident per lifespan of the retention basins. This should indicate that there could reasonably be one incident per lifespan *per* Surface Impoundment. This would affect the amount presented in the cost estimate calculations. Additionally, the report incorrectly identifies the Class II Surface Impoundments as defined in CCR, title 27, as stormwater retention basins. This mischaracterization serves to ignore the importance of the Surface Impoundments to retain both stormwater flows and nuisance water containing constituents from the Waste Pile that could pollute groundwater.

Please revise and resubmit the Known or Reasonably Foreseeable Release Plan in accordance with Board Order No. R6V-2010-0010 at least 120 days prior to operation of the Facility.

We look forward to working with you in a manner that protects water quality. If you have any questions, please contact me at (760) 241-7305 (bbergen@waterboards.ca.gov) or Patrice Copeland at (760) 241-7404 (pcopeland@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Brianna Bergen

Engineering Geologist

cc: Mailing List

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Robert Berkman	Mark and Jessie Orr	Tom Budlong
Jeff Meberg Nursery Products, LLC	Lynda L. Brothers L. Brothers Law	Joan Bird
Patricia A. Adair	Joan Rohrer	Beverely June Kramer
Charles A. Moore Sr.	Holly and Phyllis Bowser	Cecil Basenberg
Betty Hulen	Henry T. James	Ron and Edna Later
Melody Payne	Alvaro Sandoval	Gene and Mary Lou Simmons
Jackie Smith	Fred Stearn	Marsha Weasma
Glenn Meyer	Susan Johnson	Fred and Josephine Massimini
Zelma Williams Nancy McClure	Evelyn Warrington, et al Bonita McConnell	Packer Trust
Arturo & Rosalinda Garcia, et al	Anthony Wilson	Ethel Bond Trust